

REMARKS

Claims 1–3 and 5 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 5 are amended, and claims 4 and 6–14 are canceled. Support for the amendments to the claims may be found, for example, in the original claims. No new matter is added.

In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 4 and 5 contain allowable subject matter. By this Amendment, the subject matter of claim 4 is incorporated into independent claims 1. Furthermore, claim 5 is rewritten in independent form. Claims 4 and 6–14 are canceled. Claims 2 and 3 variously depend from claim 1.

In light of the amendments, Applicants submit that the rejection of the claims over the applied references is moot. Accordingly, allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 14, 2007

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